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OFFICIAL RESPONSE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Kolb, Eric Group Art Unit: 3732
Serial No.: 10/664,199 Examiner: Robert, Eduardo C
Filed: September 17, 2003
Title: Bone Fixation System

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the USPTO at 703-872-9306 on March 22, 2005.

Amy Schick (signature)
Amy Schick

March 22, 2005 (date)

David A. Lane, Jr. (name of Registered Representative)

NO. OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 3

David A. Lane, Jr.
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DePuy Spine Inc.
325 Paramount Drive
Raynham, Mass. 02767-0350

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P.2/3

Attorney Docket Number: DEP5157

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Inventor: Kolb, Eric
Serial No.: 10/664,199
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Group Art Unit: 3732
Examiner: Robert, Eduardo C

CERTIFICATION UNDER (37 C.F.R. § 1.6)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9306, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Date: 3/22/05

Signature: Amy Schick
Amy Schick

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

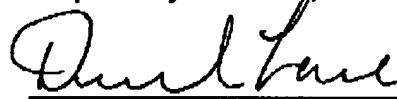
In response to the election requirement set forth in the Office Action of February 24, 2005, Applicants elect Species I (FIG.3A-5) for prosecution on the merits. Applicants consider claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14 and 16 to be readable on the elected species.

In addition, please provide any additional extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 10-0750, but do not include any payment of issue fees.

U.S. Application Serial Number: 10/664,199
Attorney Docket Number: DEP5157

Should there be any remaining or further questions, the Examiner is requested to place contact the undersigned directly.

Respectfully submitted,


David A. Lane
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